

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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ALASKA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS - EMERGENCY ORDER

POSITION STATEMENT: Alternate and Distance Supervision during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Date: 26 March 2020

Status: New

Organized by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

Adopted by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

PURPOSE:

The Board of Social Work Examiners holds to the following position regarding SUPERVISION OF EXPERIENCE FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK LICENSE 12 AAC 18.115 (c)(1) and (d).

HISTORY: On March 11, 2020 Governor Michael J. Dunleavy issued a Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) for COVID-19. Since that time Governor Dunleavy has issued several health mandates in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and on March 13, 2020 Governor Dunleavy issued a mandate to close all public school statewide until March 30, 2020. Subsequent orders since that date have limited public gatherings, closed businesses, mandated 14-day quarantine for travelers, and recommended social distancing. Information and recommendations are ongoing and it is anticipated that these may change regularly.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Board of Social Work Examiners recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in changes to agency practices, most notably the transition to distance delivery services and supervision. As a response, the Alaska Board of Social Workers is issuing a temporary guideline for applicants that are receiving clinical supervision for purposes of fulfilling 12 AAC 18.115. This guideline is expected to dissolve when the COVID-19 crisis resolves and operations can be restored to regular functioning.

- Applicants who are currently receiving clinical supervision are permitted to continue supervision through a distance delivery service as required by the agency and/or supervisor.
- Applicants are encouraged to notify the board in writing of their change of supervision delivery as soon as possible. Notification can be received by email: SocialWorkExaminers@Alaska.Gov

The Alaska Board of Social Work Examiner's authority to issue this emergency order is provided in 12 AAC 18.115(d)(2).